

Title: Chronicles: The Ophidian Code.

Author: Ronefaer Velderri

In Ophidian culture, the Great Earth Serpent is the keeper of Balance, shown as serpents of Chaos and Order wrapping themselves around the Great Serpent, spiralling in different directions.

Ophidian system comprises six Forces, three from Order and three from Chaos;
The Forces Order:
* Ethicality,
* Discipline,
* Logic.

The Forces of Chaos:
* Tolerance,
* Enthusiasm,
* Emotion.

The meanings of each are broken down further, forming the ophidian culture.

* Ethicality -
The belief that there is great value in abiding by rules of conduct.

Symbol is A Torch

* Discipline -
The drive to complete a task and avoid the distractions that will prevent its completion.

Symbol is A dagger.

* Logic -
Clear, reasoned thought, free from any instinctual

biases.

Symbol is The Abacus.

* Tolerance -

That which encourages the acceptance of all things.

Symbol is A chain.

* Enthusiasm -

The energy that allows one to perform great tasks.

Symbol is A Rose.

* Emotion -

The ability to perceive feelings that come from the heart, as opposed to ones from the mind.

Symbol is A Heart.

When combined by pairs, these Forces form the Three Principles of Balance (not to be confused with the three Principles of Order, Chaos). The Principles of Balance are:

* Harmony:

Ethicality and Tolerance -
The Ability to be at peace with the self and the world.

* Dedication:

Discipline and Enthusiasm
That which permits one to surmount obstacles and lead others.

* Rationality:

Logic and Emotion - The ability to comprehend life and understand the world around us.

Also, Anti-Forces are associated to the Forces of Order, Chaos and Balance. These Anti Forces arise from Imbalance between the Forces, and are perversions of their

corresponding Forces. The Anti-Forces also manifest themselves as a kind of malevolent spiritual being, collectively called the Banes of Order and the Banes of Chaos. The Banes are:

* Prejudice:

Ethicality without Tolerance - Disrespect for the beliefs and rights of others.

* Apathy:

Discipline without Enthusiasm - A spirit of hopelessness which slows positive action.

* Ruthlessness:

Logic without Emotion - Taking actions without regard to the wants or needs of others.

* Anarchy:

Tolerance without

Ethicality -
A lack of standards of
conduct.

* Wantonness:
Enthusiasm without
Discipline -
Acting without self
restraint.